



The effects of temperature, age and sex on presentations of renal colic in Melbourne, Australia

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Abstract:

OBJECTIVE: To determine whether renal colic incidence in the temperate environment of Melbourne, Australia, varies with ambient temperature and season. **METHODS:** This was a retrospective analysis of patients with renal colic who presented, between 1999 and 2005 inclusive, to a Victorian inner city emergency department. The emergency department database was interrogated to identify patients with an International Classification of Diseases 10th revision diagnostic code of renal colic. All weather data were obtained from the Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne, Australia). The primary study endpoints were renal colic incidence and mean monthly temperature and humidity. Data were analysed using Spearman's correlation coefficient and the normal Z-test. **RESULTS:** About 3070 cases were identified. Mean age was 45.0 (SD 14.0) years. Males predominated with 2374 (77.3%) cases. For both sexes, renal colic incidence was lower amongst younger and older patients. The summer rate was significantly greater than the winter rate (1.53 vs. 1.24 presentations/day, rate difference 0.29, 95% confidence interval 0.15-0.43, P

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Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Meteorological Factors, Temperature

Temperature: Fluctuations

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Urologic Effect

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Elderly

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified